

## Message Text

PAGE 01 THE HA 04914 090607Z

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ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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P R 081611Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2328

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T THE HAGUE 4914

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, XF, NL

SUBJECT: SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S VISIT TO THE HAGUE NOVEMBER 5-8  
FOR THE NPG MEETING

1. SECRETARY SCHLESINGER AND PARTY LEFT THE HAGUE AT 1300 LOCAL NOVEMBER 8, CONCLUDING EXTREMELY ACTIVE AND SUCCESSFUL 3-DAY VISIT. IN ADDITION TO PARTICIPATING IN 14TH SEMI-ANNUAL NPG MEETING (AGREED MINUTE REPORTED IN THE HAGUE 4890) SECRETARY SCHLESINGER HAD SIGNIFICANT BILATERAL MEETINGS WITH PRIME MINISTER DEN UYL AND THREE OTHER

KEY GON MINISTERS AS WELL AS UK AND FRG DEFENSE MINISTERS.

2. IN HIS MEETINGS WITH DEFENSE MINISTER VREDELING AND FONMIN VAN DER STOEL, WHICH SECRETARY SCHLESINGER HAD REQUESTED, AND WITH PRIME MINISTER DEN UYL AND ECONOMICS MINISTER LUBBERS, WHO ASKED TO SEE HIM AFTER HE ARRIVED, SECRETARY SCHLESINGER SPOKE FRANKLY ABOUT THE ISSUES INVOLVED IN THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT INCLUDING THE USE OF OIL AS A POLITICAL WEAPON - THE OVERRIDING PREOCCUPATION FOR THE DUTCH THESE DAYS. THE SECRETARY EMPHASIZED THAT THE UNITED STATES DID NOT REPEAT NOT INTEND TO BE DRIVEN TO THE WALL IN THIS SITUATION. HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE DUTCH PERFORMANCE DURING THIS CRISIS, PARTICULARLY THEIR SOLIDARITY AS A NATO ALLY, AND INDICATED THE POSSIBILITY OF US SUPPORT TO MEET THEIR CRITICAL NEEDS. DUTCH WERE OBVIOUSLY GRATEFUL FOR OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THEIR CONCERNS AND VIEWPOINT DIRECTLY WITH A TOP US OFFICIAL. THEY DREW A SHARP  
SECRET

PAGE 02 THE HA 04914 090607Z

DISTINCTION BETWEEN US POLICY IN THE MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT, WHICH THEY APPROVED, AND THAT OF THEIR EC PARTNERS, WHO, THE DUTCH FELT, HAD LET THEM DOWN BADLY. CONVERSATIONS WITH GON MINISTERS ARE BEING REPORTED SEPTELS).

3. TIMING OF SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S VISIT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MORE OPPORTUNE FROM DUTCH POINT OF VIEW AND GAVE THEM A REAL SHOT IN THE ARM. FROM US POINT OF VIEW SECRETARY'S VISIT WAS MOST HELPFUL IN ENHANCING CONFIDENCE IN AND RESPECT FOR USG ON PART OF DEN UYL GOVERN-

MENT, WHICH CAME INTO OFFICE LAST MAY WITH CERTAIN IDEOLOGICAL HANGUPS

TOWARD THE UNITED STATES. DEN UYL AND COMPANY WILL RECOGNIZE MORE CLEARLY NOW THAT THEIR NEED FOR US UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT IS FUNDA-

MENTAL TO THEIR COUNTRY'S NATIONAL INTEREST.  
GOULD

SECRET

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, VISITS, MEETINGS  
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**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
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